INSIST ON
Bartlett-Bacon bills being passed. Insist on knowing where your Representatives in Congress stand. You have a right to know.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Entered as second-class matter, September 19, 1912, at the Post-office at Washington, D. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

HELP THE MINERS.
Local unions are urged to give prompt financial aid to the striking copper miners of Calumet.

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STRIKES OF MINERS PROBED

Michigan and Colorado Troubles Given Publicity.

METHODS OF GUN MEN EXPOSED

Congressional Committee Finds Low Wages and Dangerous Working Conditions the Rule.

Hancock, Mich., Feb. 21.—The Congressional Committee that is investigating the copper strike invited Gov. Ferris to be present at the hearings, but he declined. The unionists have testified that their pay was low and that the mine bosses cheated and abused them. Two former employes of one of the companies said they lost their jobs because of a complaint of working conditions and were unable to get work in neighboring mines because of their union membership. Joe Mihelich said that he, together with fourteen others, were discharged in April, 1913, for complaining that they were not allowed a full hour for dinner, and because they objected to the careless handling of the cage in which they were taken up and down from the mine. None of the men were able to get work in any other mine. President Rickard, of the Calumet Miners' Union, testified that a miner could make more by contract than under the daily wage, if he happened to strike a good vein, but in that event he would be cut down when the time came to make a new contract, and if he refused the contract tendered him he would be compelled to work elsewhere. Much evidence was introduced by the miners to prove they were paid little, if any, wages. William Keipel testified that he worked twenty-six shifts and on pay day was told he "had nothing coming." Isaac Hukka said he was 75 cents in debt to the company after working one month in the Tamarack mine. Pay envelopes that were introduced showed the low wages earned and deductions for "hospital, store, and board" in many instances. Much evidence has been introduced to show the activity of imported "gunmen" and strikebreakers. Patrick Dunnigan, miner and former marshal of Ahmeek village, swore that up to the time armed guards were brought to Ahmeek, about six months ago, no one had as much as has his face slapped." The attorneys for the operators failed in their attempt to blame officers of the miners' union for calling the strike. It was clearly shown that the strike was ordered by a referendum vote, as the men insisted on going out because conditions were growing worse. President Rickard told the committee that the strike was called against the advice of the officers, but that "no power on earth could stop the men from striking," and that the referendum vote was overwhelmingly in favor of a strike.

Denver, Feb. 21.—A tax of one cent a ton on all coal mined by the principal operators in Colorado has been used to pay strike expenses, since last September, was the admission of Mine Owner C. L. Baum to the Congressional Committee that is now investigating the coal strike in this State. John C. Osgood, president of the Victor-American Fuel Company, agreed to take full responsibility for the importation into Colorado of eight rapid-fire guns by the operators. The hearing of A. C. Feltz was marked by several sensational incidents. Feltz is connected with the Baldwin-Feltz strikebreaking agency and admitted that arms and ammunition were imported into the State under orders of the operators. Feltz was grilled by members of the Congressional Committee, and his damaging admissions caused the attorneys for the operators to attempt to direct his answers. This ceased, however, when Chairman Foster snapped: "You stay out. The committee is finding what it wants to without any help." State Mine Inspector James Dalrymple said the fundamental cause of the Colorado coal strike was death-trap mines, due to negligence of the owners. The inspector said the accident at the Vulcan mine, last December, in which thirty-seven men were killed, was directly due to a failure of the operators to properly sprinkle the mine, though it was equipped with sprinkling devices. In answer to a question, the official said: "From long experience as mine superintendent and as State mine inspector, I believe mines are better and safer where the men are unionized." Salvatori Valentine, a Sicilian miner, told the committee he was brought from Pittsburg through deceptions and forced to work in the Delagua mine, and that one of his fellow-workers was shot and killed by unknown persons in the mine. He said he was guarded by soldiers on the way to and from the mine, and was not permitted to leave the camp to buy beer or tobacco. After the shooting he tried to leave the camp, but was told he was indebted to the company for $136 for tools and transportation, which he must pay before he would be permitted to leave. He said that he finally escaped with forty-seven Italians and went to the strikers' colony at Ludlow. Much evidence of this character was introduced by the miners. John R. Lawson, of the United Mine Workers' executive board, accused the operators of bringing in strikebreakers who were soon forced to appeal to the union for help. He said the operators imported "gunmen," who attacked them, and then the miners were denied fair trials, because of "packed" juries. On one occasion an Englishman, who was accused of murder, was tried by a jury on which there were eleven Mexicans who could not understand the English language.

CELLS FOR FOUR SLAYERS.

Houghton, Mich., Feb. 21.—"I have tried to find something somewhere in mitigation of your act. If the jury had found your plea of self-defense true it would have been a travesty on justice," said Judge Flannigan, in sentencing four detectives employed by the Waddell-Mahon strikebreaking agency, to the penitentiary for killing Steve Putrich. James Cooper, Arthur Davis, and William Groff, three of the detectives, must serve a minimum of seven years or a maximum of fifteen years, with a recommended maximum of fifteen years. The jury refused clemency in these case. The fourth member of the band, Edwin Polkinghorne, received the same maximum and minimum, but the jury recommended that the maximum be twelve years instead of fifteen. The killing of Putrich was the result of high-handed methods of those guards, who have been imported into this section by the copper mine owners.

AWAKE IN DIXIE LAND.

Atlanta, Feb. 21.—"Organizing Day in Georgia" was observed throughout the State by the trade union movement. Meetings were held everywhere and reports indicate that the addresses were of the most optimistic nature, and recounted the progress by Georgia's organized movement.

AGAINST CONVICT LABOR.

Washington, Feb. 21.—Congressman Hensley has introduced a bill to prohibit the importation of goods made either entirely or in part by convict labor. This bill was introduced in the Senate by Senator Stone.

SENATOR BACON IS DEAD.

Washington, Feb. 21.—Because of kidney trouble and complications that developed from a broken rib, Senator Augustus O. Bacon, of Georgia, aged 75 years, died in this city after a long and useful life in the public service. He was one of the most powerful figures in the United States Senate, and was chairman of the important Foreign Relations Committee. He introduced the pending bill in the Senate to exempt trade unions and farmers' organizations from the Sherman anti-trust law and to regulate injunctions. This bill was also introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Bartlett, and they are now known as the Bartlett-Bacon bill. On June 9, 1910, Senator Bacon electrified thinking men and women of this nation by his impassioned appeal for human rights while pleading with his colleagues not to sustain the report of the Appropriation Committee, which rejected the Hughes amendment to the anti-trust section of the sundry civil appropriation bill and which had been adopted by the House by an overwhelming vote. Senator Bacon lost that battle, but he lived to see his views on this question accepted, when President Wilson, on June 23, 1913, signed a similar amendment, which provided that no moneys appropriated by the sundry civil appropriation bill should be used to prosecute trade unions or farmers' organizations under the Sherman anti-trust law.

SAYS JAPS ARE A MENACE.

Washington, Feb. 21.—Before the House Immigration Committee, Immigration Commissioner Caminetti declared that "Asiatic immigration has become a menace to the entire country. The danger is general," he insisted, "and no part of the United States is immune. There is no question but that the Japs are getting in surreptitiously. They are increasing in number in this country, the present number being double that of five or six years ago." The federal official urged that Congress provide border and water patrols before the adjournment of this session, as it is impossible now to prevent illegal immigration across our northern border. It was stated that Japanese and Chinese, as well as Hindus, use this route.

TO PROBE PERE MARQUETTE.

Washington, Feb. 21.—Congressman Cramton has introduced a resolution for an investigation of the Pere Marquette Railway system by the Interstate Commerce Commission. A strike of federated shop employes has been on since May 28, 1913, because of low wages. The system is in the hands of a receiver, and every effort on the part of workers to settle the trouble has failed. It is claimed the railroad has become demoralized, and the rolling stock and equipment has reached such a condition that state officials report more people have been killed and injured on this system than on any other Michigan line during the year 1913. The workers and sympathizers have been circulating petitions for an investigation, which is being supported by all classes of citizens.

TWO NEW VESSELS FOR NAVY.

Washington, Feb. 21.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels has awarded the Boston navy yard a contract for building a supply ship at $1,171,713, and the Philadelphia navy yard a contract for a transport at $1,457,205. The government plants submitted estimates considerably below the lowest bids from private shipbuilders. These contracts mean the opening up of the Boston and Philadelphia navy yards for new work. Heretofore these yards have been devoted to repair work. The only construction yards have been at Brooklyn and Mare Island, Cal. In awarding these contracts to government yards the Navy Department has indicated it is conscious of the sentiment created by the American Federation of Labor for more public construction of naval vessels in the navy yards.

CARPENTERS LOCKED OUT.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 21.—Carpenters employed at the Power Planing mill were laid off last week and notified that if they desired to return they must agree to work under non-union conditions, which the management terms the "open shop." This action was expected by the Carpenters, and as a result the mill is now attempting to secure strike-breakers. The unionists blame non-union contractors for existing conditions, and say the mill managers are forced into this policy by the opposition of the contractors to the Carpenters' union. A strike has been on for some time and the contractors, it is claimed, have compelled some of the mills to break their agreements with the union.

LABORERS ARE ORGANIZED.

Buffalo, Feb. 21.—A. F. of L. Organizer Flett has secured a charter for 200 Polish laborers, who struck in sympathy with the Iron Molders and Core Makers employed at the Gould Coupler Works, Depew, near here. These workers were the only ones that had an organization in the plant, and they charge the company with trying to destroy their unions. Manager Hayden has the reputation of being an "efficiency boss," and recently attempted to work the men an extra thirty-six minutes each day. A committee called on him to protest, and he discharged them. The strike followed.

MISSOURI WORKERS ACTIVE.

Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 21.—Three new unions have been formed in this city within the past few weeks. They are the inside shop men (iron workers), pile drivers and the shoe repairers. Organizer John T. Smith reports that several others are now being formed as a result of the "labor forward" movement. President Wood, of the State Federation of Labor, is devoting his entire time to the state branch and has succeeded in organizing several unions. There are 263 locals and fifteen central bodies affiliated to the federation, and results are predicted at the coming session of the state legislature.

ASKS FOR MORAL SUPPORT.

Port Arthur, Tex., Feb. 21.—Longshoremen affiliated to the International Longshoremen's association are asking for the moral support of organized labor in their strike against contractors on the waterfront who have failed in their effort to enforce a new set of working rules which reduces wages 25 per cent on certain classes of work. Nonunion laborers have been imported, but the Longshoremen ask skilled workers to keep away from this city, and then they are sure of winning the controversy.

LOOKING AHEAD.

San Francisco, Feb. 21.—The president of the Central body has been empowered to appoint a committee of twenty-five to arrange for the reception and entertainment of delegates who will come in 1915 to attend the A. F. of L. and other labor conventions that will meet in this city.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS STILL BRAZEN.

Washington, Feb. 21.—Simultaneously with the meeting in this city of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America appears a paid advertisement in the local press, signed by George Pope, president of the National Association of Manufacturers, who volunteers "to say a word about business men's associations and the work they have to do." Mr. Pope's introduction is: "Much of the time of the men in these larger associations is given to preventing pernicious legislation. The most dangerous legislation that these men have had to combat is what is known as anti-injunction bills, which have been presented to state and national legislatures at the instigation of the trade unionists." As is customary with opponents of those working men and women who insist on their right to organize for the purpose of bettering conditions, Mr. Pope abandons argument and reason for the bludgeon of abuse, and, after his introductory declaration, makes the following frantic effort to appeal to blind passion:

"These unions take from men the right to bargain for themselves, and are, therefore, lawless organizations, and, because they are lawless, the courts, as well as the national guards, meet with their enmity.

"All the talk about the right of collective bargaining by the trade union officials, like all their adroitly worded phrases, is for the purpose of deceiving.

"With the trade unionists it is not a question of collective bargaining, nor of delegated bargaining, but the question of depriving the individual of the right to bargain for himself.

"Trade unions, because they take from men the right to bargain for themselves, are lawless organizations, and, because they are lawless, they must go, and when they are gone, long will remain the memory of the brazen insolence of the trade union officials and the trade union leaders, while forever will remain on the pages of history, which they have blackened, the story of their awful crimes."

These bombastic utterances by Mr. Pope indicate that the National Association of Manufacturers has learned no lesson from the blistering indictment made against it by a special committee appointed by the House of Representatives, July 9, 1913, to investigate the National Association of Manufacturers and its offspring, the National Council for Industrial Defense. These charges were first printed in the New York World and the Chicago Tribune. The Congressional committee was in session from July 9 till December 9, 1913, when it made its report to the House of Representatives. This report declared, in language with only one meaning, that officers of the National Association of Manufacturers, who were stigmatized as "paid hirelings," were looked upon with "the greatest suspicion." The committee devoted pages to show some of the vicious and corrupting methods employed by the officers of the National Association of Manufacturers, which, Mr. Pope now assures us, "is given to preventing pernicious legislation." The following sentence, from a lengthy report, will give some idea of the opinions held by the committee on Mr. Pope's organization:

"The extent of the political influence thus exerted your committee cannot tell, but the method was improper and dishonest, and to the extent that this method was used **it was the exertion of improper influence, and was disreputable.**"

This scathing rebuke, agreed to by a majority of the committee, was not satisfactory to Congressman MacDonald, who submitted a minority report on Mr. Pope's organization's effort to "prevent pernicious legislation." Among other things, Mr. MacDonald says:

"The naive effrontery shown upon the witness stand by the officers of the National Association of Manufacturers in assuming that the committee would accept at face value the bald denials and ridiculous evasion and perversion of the meaning of action all too plainly corrupt and sinister, and would simply and guilelessly make these explanations their own and attempt to hand the deception on to their colleagues and the public, cannot be permitted to pass without mention. Their plainly shown attitude was that the American Congress was considered by them as their legislative department, and viewed with the same arrogant manner in which they viewed their other employes, and that these legislators who dared to oppose them would be disciplined in the same manner in which they were accustomed to discipline recalcitrant employes."

The National Association of Manufacturers, pilloried and condemned by the United States Congress, now assumes to sit in judgment on legislation before that body, declaring, at the same time, that the trade unions of our country are "lawless organizations." The best answer to this charge is the report of the Congressional Committee that so emphatically condemned Mr. Pope's organization. The committee also investigated the American Federation of Labor. President Gompers and Secretary Morrison presented all books and papers, and the committee finds:

"That the organization is actively and earnestly engaged in political and legislative effort, and has been for many years, is well known, but your committee has found nothing from the evidence taken before it to indicate it has done or attempted to do in these matters aught that is illegitimate or that is not within the rights and privileges of citizens of these United States. We do not find that its lobby has improperly effected or prevented legislation under the rule laid down."

Let labor of all America give answer to Mr. Pope and the National Association of Manufacturers by conveying to the members of the House of Representatives and the Senate the urgent necessity for the passage of the Bartlett-Bacon bill (S. No. 927, H. R. 1873) by the present Congress. The Bartlett-Bacon bill will remove the voluntary organizations of labor from the unjust operations of the Sherman anti-trust law, as interpreted by the courts, and will also regulate the issuance of injunctions in labor disputes.

METAL POLISHERS STRIKE.

Cincinnati, Feb. 21.—On behalf of Springfield, Mass., Metal Polishers, on strike against the Indian Motocycle Company, the International union has issued a circular in which the Motocycle management is put in the position of refusing to arbitrate and being censured by the Massachusetts State Board of Arbitration for a violation of the posted rates of wages. The Metal Polishers struck last month because of wage reductions that amounted to $1.10 a day. One hundred and twenty men are involved. The company's claim that they will violate their agreement with the Metal Trades association, if they arbitrate, is not agreed to by the State Board, which shows that this agreement is not binding because the employes are not a party to it. The board says that the attitude of the employer is not one which makes for industrial peace, and that it (the Indian Motorcycle company) is responsible for the continuation of the strike, which would be brought to an end if the workers' offer to arbitrate is accepted. To this the management answers, "We have nothing to arbitrate."

PASSES EIGHT-HOUR BILL.

Washington, Feb. 21.—The House of Representatives has passed the La Follette-Peters' bill, which provides for an eight-hour day for women in industrial and mercantile establishments in the District of Columbia. The bill had passed the Senate and is now ready for the President's signature. The provisions of the bill apply to women workers in manufacturing, mechanical, or mercantile establishments, laundries, hotels, restaurants, and telephone, telegraph, and express companies. Employers of females in these lines of industry are forbidden to work them more than eight hours a day. The bill contains provisions for publicity of records of female employes. The number of hours worked, and the wages paid must be recorded for the benefit of three inspectors, who are to guard against violation of the law.

ADMIT DYING STATEMENT.

Topeka, Kan., Feb. 21.—The Supreme Court of this state has ruled that a dying statement may be taken as evidence in civil as well as in criminal court proceedings. The statement of a dying man was necessary to sustain the claim of a defendant that he had paid $3,000 for a farm. The lower court refused to admit the evidence, but the Supreme Court reversed this view, and said: "The rule that dying declarations are admissable only in criminal cases (and those involving homicide) is without reasonable basis, and should no longer be followed."

ARE AGAINST COUPONS.

Seattle, Feb. 21.—Resolutions calling upon Congress to pass laws providing for the abolishment of the coupon and premium system have been adopted by the Western Association of Cigar Dealers, who charge that the United States Cigar Stores Company is securing control of drug stores with the intention of issuing a joint coupon. The cigar dealers are against coupons or premiums of any kind.

WOULD BUY DIRECT.

Toronto, Canada, Feb. 21.—Declaring that the producer and consumer must come together, delegates to the Trades and Labor Council instructed a committee, which has been holding meetings with farmers, to again confer with the agriculturalists and attempt to work out some scheme whereby the workers of this city might receive the products of the farm direct.

BOOKBINDERS ORGANIZE.

Nashville, Feb. 21.—Bookbinders in this city are waging an active organizing campaign, despite opposition by some employers, who are making desperate efforts to secure competent workers to replace those locked out. At a recent meeting forty men and women joined the local, and it is only a question of time until every bindery employe in the city will be within the fold.

NEWS FROM BOSTON.

Boston, Feb. 21.—Teamsters and Helpers union, whose members are employed in the municipal sanitary and street cleaning department, are protesting against the policy of hiring men for city yards through contractors, which practice, the workers insist, defeats the civil service laws and defrauds the city to enrich individuals. The Machinists in this vicinity are meeting with success in their organizing campaign, which is being conducted on an extensive scale. At mass meetings of Garment Workers the sentiment against going back to a nine-hour day, advocated by certain employers, was cheered. The eight-hour day was secured after a strike, last year, and these workers intend "standing pat" on this question. Members of the Brotherhood of Trainmen are urging the passage of a law providing for one day off in seven. The Freight Handlers are presenting their 1914 wage schedules to railroads around Boston. A demand for betterments is made. The Grocery and Provisions Clerks' union reports that large numbers of suburban stores are agreeing to their shorter hour plan. The Stationary Firemen's union reports that their establishment of the eight-hour day is meeting with success. Steam Engineers' unions state that every firm but one called upon has granted the standard wage and working conditions asked by the unions.

A "PHOSSY JAW" VERDICT.

Joliet, Ill., Feb. 21.—Elizabeth Nemanich, 18, was awarded $3,050 damages in the Circuit Court for the loss of her lower jaw from the disease known as "phossy jaw," contracted in the plant of the National Match company, two years ago. The girl has suffered intense agony until an operation removed all the diseased bone tissue from her face and a metal jaw was substituted for the one provided by nature. Since the passage of the federal statute prohibiting the use of phosphorus in the manufacture of matches this disease has been eliminated from the ranks of the match workers, but previously it was a menace to every one connected with the industry. In the case above referred to, the company agreed to pay the verdict and the case will not be appealed.

ASSIST DISABLED EMPLOYES.

Washington, Feb. 21.—Congressman McGillicuddy, of Maine, has introduced a bill which provides compensation for disabled civilian employes of the government. The measure proposes a pension for life for total disability resulting from an accident while in the performance of duty, the amount to be 66 2-3 per cent of the salary of the injured person. Smaller amounts would be paid for accidents resulting in partial disability.

UNIONS HELP THE BLIND.

San Francisco, Feb. 21.—Unions affiliated with the San Francisco Building Trades Council are donating their services in the construction of the Home for the Blind, now being erected in this city. The unions that are contributing to this worthy cause are: United Laborers' Union, Brotherhood of Workers' Union, Painters' Union, and various unions of Carpenters.

NEW EXPRESS RATES.

San Francisco, Feb. 21.—The State Railroad Commission has ordered the Wells-Fargo Express company to reduce its rates, beginning March 1. An average cut of 17 per cent will be made and the sweeping reductions ordered will result in an annual saving to the people of this state of approximately $750,000.

SECURE BIG CONTRACT.

Genoa, Italy, Feb. 21.—The contract to furnish 25,000 tons of pipe for a $20,000,000 aqueduct has been awarded to a Philadelphia concern. Italian, French, German, and English companies were competitors.

CAR MEN GAIN MORE PAY.

Indianapolis, Feb. 21.—The Public Utilities Commission has granted an increase of wages to street car men of this city. Other provisions provide that no worker shall be discriminated against because of his union affiliation; that all runs must be completed within ten hours, and that each man in the car service shall have at least one Sunday in each month off duty. Wages, per hour, range from 21 cents for the first year to 27 cents after five years' service. The old rates were 20 cents and 25 cents. All employes who are not engaged in the car service are granted a 5 per cent increase. Future grievances are to be referred to a board of arbitration. The decision is binding for three years from November 8, 1913, when the men returned to work. The strike resulted in calling out the State militia and the killing of several men. After much feeling was developed, an agreement was reached November 7 last whereby the men returned to work and the matter was referred to the Public Utilities Commission.

FAIL TO EJECT MINERS.

Wheeling, Feb. 21.—The West Virginia and Pittsburgh Coal Comany has failed in its effort to eject striking employes from houses they are occupying and compel them to pay damages and rent for the last several months. The workers claim this is part of a campaign to break their strike and drive them back to work. The cases were tried by juries. In three instances the jury returned verdicts for the miners, in three others the jury disagreed, and in one it was decided that the striker was unlawfully occupying a company house, but the company was not entitled to any damages or back rent. The strikers believe that the pending cases will also be decided in their favor.

CITIZENS ON PUBLIC WORKS.

Worcester, Feb. 21.—A Common Council committee is holding hearings on the petitions presented by organized labor requesting that none but citizens be employed on municipal buildings, and that this clause be a part of all contracts entered into by the city. The petition was handed to the city officials last December, during a strike, which has since been settled, but the trade unions are insisting on its passage in an effort to stop contractors from importing strike-breakers during inrustrial trouble.

WILL USE UNION LABOR.

Galveston, Feb. 21.—The County Commissioners of this county have voted in favor of employing only union labor in the future. A committee from the Labor Council called on these officials and asked them to extend a former resolution providing for union labor on one public building to all work under their control. The Commissioners voted unanimously in favor of the plan.

TO INSPECT LABOR CAMPS.

Sacramento, Feb. 21.—As a result of criticisms by Governor Johnson on the unsanitary condition which prevails in some hop ranches, the State Immigration and Housing Commission has announced that it would order an inspection of all labor camps in California. This work will be carried on through the appointment of sanitary inspectors.

MILL MEN'S STRIKE ADJUSTED.

Granite City, Ill., Feb. 21.—Members of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers have adjusted their difficulties with the local plant and have returned to work. The strike was caused by the discharge of a union man. The dispute was settled through conferences and the man was reinstated.

NEW LONGSHOREMEN'S LOCAL.

Baltimore, Feb. 21.—A new local of Longshoremen has been instituted at Locust Point, with a membership of 160. This is the third union of this craft organized in Baltimore within the past year, and is the result of an active organizing campaign.

TO AID THE UNEMPLOYED.

Washington, Feb. 21.—"If nothing else will avail, it may be necessary to urge insurance against non-employment," declared Chairman Frank Walsh, of the Industrial Relations Commission, in discussing plans to solve the unemployed problem. The Commission has ordered an investigation to extend from Boston to Kansas City. Four investigators have been assigned to this work, with orders to report within six weeks. It is proposed to gather material for the preparation of legislation by Congress to establish a federal employment bureau to serve as a clearing house for public and private agencies to direct the movement of migratory workers. Casual employment will be attacked by the commission, and co-operation in the effort to eliminate this evil will be urged upon all employers. In referring to the possibility of insurance against non-employment, and the bread lines in large cities, Mr. Walsh said: "None can see this spectacle without realizing that here is something society cannot afford to tolerate. An employer never thinks of laying off his bookkeeper or clerk after employing him three or four hours in a day or three or four days in a week. The problem of continuous employment for laborers is more difficult, but it is a problem that must be solved, if we are to check the increase in our great army of hopeless, homeless men."

TRUST REDUCES WAGES.

New York, Feb. 21.—Salaries of United Cigar Stores' clerks have been cut from ten to twenty-five per cent through the adoption of a uniform scale just made effective. The wage reduction will amount to from $175,000 to $250,000 a year, which will recoup the trust for the extra dividend of one-half of one per cent paid last year. The new scale came without warning to the clerks and more than one hundred quit their jobs. Most of the company's 700 stores are in the two-clerk class and do about $500 a week business. Wages in these stores have ranged from $12 to $25 per week, but $20 for the chief and $18 for the assistant have prevailed generally. Under the new scale the clerks in these stores will receive $16 and $14. It is estimated that the weekly pay roll of the United Cigar Stores company has been cut on an average of $5 to $7 a store. With more than 700 stores in operation this would mean a saving of from $3,500 to $5,000 a week, or from $175,000 to $250,000 a year.

PROPOSED LABOR LAWS.

Albany, Feb. 21.—The following labor legislation is now pending in the State assembly: An amendment to the constitution authorizing the enactment of laws establishing minimum wages for women and minors in this State; a bill to give transportation to incapacitated, superannuated, and other service employes and their families; a bill fixing $2 per day as the minimum wage to be paid to laborers and other unskilled workers employed on the State canals; a resolution appropriating funds for a commission to inquire into old-age pensions; a bill to license barbers; proposing an amendment to the State constitution providing for the recall of elective State officials; a bill providing for safe scaffolds in the erection of buildings; a bill to extend the operation of the eight-hour law to work authorized by commissions spending public money. The employment of convict labor on roads remote from cities is recommended by Highway Commissioner Carlisle in his report, just issued.

PROBE RELIEF FUNDS.

Trenton, N. J. Feb. 21.—Assemblyman Bredenbek has introduced a bill in the state legislature calling for an investigation of the relief funds maintained by the different railroads which are contributed to by men "not in a voluntary way." The Pennsylvania Railroad company is specifically named, and its methods are alleged to work a hardship upon its employes. There is reason to believe, the resolution states, that the funds are not managed to the satisfaction of the contributors, and that the benefits are not properly enjoyed. It is held that these relief funds are in the nature of an insurance system, and they should be supervised by the state, the same as banking and other insurance interests. Provision is made for the committee to demand the presentation of all data on these funds.

A WARNING FROM DETROIT.

Detroit, Feb. 21.—Hundreds of workers are arriving in this city every day in answer to advertisements published in foreign newspapers by the Employers' association, is the report of union representatives who are conducting the organizing campaign under direction of the A. F. of L. Metal Trades' Department. Hall and shop meetings are being held and the organizers state that in many cases workers are warned to stay away from these gatherings. Especial attention is being paid to the automobile industry.

AFFECTS ALL ALIENS.

Sunbury, Penn., Feb. 21.—Federal Judge Witmer has decided that unnaturalized persons can only sue a railroad company in the district court of its residence, and can not sue in states where it does business through agents. An alien and his wife sued the Erie railroad for damages, and the company's attorneys asked that the suit be dismissed, as the plaintiffs were subjects of the Czar of Russia, and the defendant company can only be sued in the district court of New York, where it is chartered. This position was upheld by Judge Witmer.

EXPLAIN UNIONISM.

Steubenville, Feb. 21.—Trade unionism, its purposes and its aims, was the subject of talks at a banquet given by the local Trades and Labor Council to the Board of Education and the Chamber of Commerce. The meeting resulted in a better understanding on the part of many business men who have declared their intention of aiding the trade union movement in the future. The members of the Board of Education announced that union labor only will be employed by them in the future.

WILL NOT AFFECT PENSIONS.

Binghamton, N. Y., Feb. 21.—At a meeting of the Delaware and Hudson Railroad employes, held in this city, to consider details of the strike settlement, it was stated that the recent strike will not affect pensions. Heretofore the applicant for work was required to answer whether he had ever participated in a strike. Under agreement this question has been struck out of the application.

BOOM IN GLASS INDUSTRY.

Millville, N. J., Feb. 21.—The glass season in this city has been one of the most successful and the outlook for a continuous run into July is good. The Whitall Tatum Company, the second largest glass concern in the United States, has been running full capacity ever since the blast started last fall. About 2,500 men are employed.

SECESSION AGAIN REPULSED

Position of Bona Fide Electrical Workers Upheld.

MARKS END OF THE CONTEST

Ohio Supreme Court Refuses to Concur in Misrepresentations of Dual Organization.

Cleveland, Feb. 21.—By declaring that the Electrical Workers' union (Frank J. McNulty, president), affiliated to the A. F. of L., is the legitimate organization of this craft, the Ohio Supreme Court has ended the long drawn-out legal contest started at Cleveland by the seceding union. The case came before the court on appeal by the seceders from the Court of Appeals, Cleveland district, which sustained the Common Pleas Court in its position that the McNulty Electrical Workers' Union was the bona fide organization and was entitled to all moneys and property. Now the Supreme Court upholds these decisions, and declares, in effect, that when a man or a group of men join a voluntary organization, such as a labor union, they pledge adherence to the constitution, which is another name for a contract, and that when the said party or parties desert the organization they forfeit all rights to any property, benefits or privileges of that organization. The decision releases about $90,000 which the seceders attempted to secure, and which was tied up during court proceedings. This money will now be turned over to the legitimate Electrical Workers' Union. Further appeal on the part of the dualists is hardly probable, as attorneys say the questions involved are not of Federal jurisdiction, which will make it impossible to carry the case to the United States Supreme Court. This decision is one of the hardest blows yet received by the secessionists, as the suit was an important plank in their campaign of misrepresentation, and which had an undoubted influence on large numbers of workers within their ranks, but who are now joining the A. F. of L. union. Reports from the Pacific coast indicate that the referendum to join the legitimate union is being carried by over six to one. This agreement was signed by President Gompers, President McNulty and President Valentine, of the Iron Molders, and provided that the Electrical Workers' unions outside the A. F. of L. union should return. The officers of the seceders refused to submit this question to the referendum, as provided in the agreement, but their position was not sustained on the Pacific coast, and the members in that section submitted the question themselves.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS WIN.

Dallas, Tex., Feb. 21.—A board of arbitration has settled the strike of Electrical Workers in this city, which had involved a large number of men, and tied up operations in the building industry. The men were upheld in all their claims but one—the rate for overtime pay. The board recommended that the rate be time and one-half. Wages are increased from $4.50 to $5 a day, effective the first of next August, and only union men are to be employed. The new contract will run for eighteen months, which was proposed by the Electrical Workers. The contractors wanted a two years' agreement. A board of arbitration has been provided for, and in future disputes the men are to remain at work pending a decision, which must be rendered within six days after the dispute shall arise.

NAMES TRADE STUDY BOARD.

Washington, Feb. 21.—President Wilson has appointed the commission authorized by Congress to investigate and report on vocational education and trade training. The two unionists appointed are C. H. Winslow, of the Sawsmith's Union, now connected with the United States Department of Labor, and an authority on the question, and Miss Agnes Nestor, of the Glovemakers' Union. The American Federation of Labor has repeatedly urged that vocational and trade training be systematized to supplant the present practice in many parts of the country where cultural studies and fundamental vocational training are overlooked while the student is forced to acquire a surface knowledge of things not practical.

MUST SAY STRIKE IS ON.

New York, Feb. 21.—At the request of the Central Federated Union, Senator Boylan has introduced a bill regulating advertisements and solicitations for employes during strikes and lockouts. The bill was drawn by Frank X. Sullivan, attorney for the central body, and provides that any advertisements for workers during strikes or lockouts shall contain these facts. Another section provides that when a worker seeks employment in a factory where a strike or lockout is on, the management shall state such facts to the applicant in his language or native tongue. The bill is intended to end the practice so common among certain manufacturers of inducing workers to come to struck localities.

PROTECT LIFE ON SEA.

Washington, Feb. 21.—The recent collision of the steamships Monroe and Nantucket, off the Virginia coast, in which forty-two lives were lost, has stirred the International Seamen's Union to renewed activity in favor of the La Follette seamen's bill, which is now pending in the Senate, and which the unionists charge is being held up through the influence of American and European shipowners. The seamen ask unionists and sympathizers to write their Senators and Congressmen and inquire [illegible] how many more people must be drowned before they provide enough lifeboats with real seamen to man them. Do this now.

NEW UNION ORGANIZED.

Minneapolis, Feb. 21.—As a result of the Upholsterers' strike in this city a local of varnishers and cabinetmakers has been formed. The upholsterers have been on strike for several weeks because of their refusal to accept nonunion conditions, and their 100 per cent organization is solidly opposing the employers' efforts. The strikers are complimenting Mayor Nye for the fair stand he has taken in their lockout trouble. No assaults on the strikers by policemen have occurred, and the executive shows he is in favor of eradicating the thugs that are brought here as strike-breakers from other cities.

A SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN.

Toronto, Feb. 21.—Canadian Organizer Todd, of the Brotherhood of Painters, who is now in this city, reports that his organizing campaign through the province has been most successful. Many new locals have been established, and the old ones have been strengthened and greater interest created.

TEAMSTERS ADVANCE.

Tacoma, Feb. 21.—The City Transfer and Storage Company has signed an agreement with the local Teamsters' union, whose members are now employed in place of the strikebreakers who have been at work for several months.